

ONE POT SYNTHESIS OF CITALOPRAM FROM 5-CYANOPHTHALIDE

ABSTRACT

A process for one pot synthesis of citalopram is disclosed. The process comprises subjecting 5-cyano phthalide to Grignard reduction followed cyclization and followed by C-alkylation reaction to obtain citalopram without isolation and purification of any intermediates. In another embodiment, 5-cyano phthalide is subjected to sequential Grignard reactions followed by cyclization to obtain citalopram without isolation and purification of any intermediate stages.